Abstract

The invention relates to the use of surfactant mixtures containing alkyl and alkenyl oligoglycosides (APGs) of formula:

RO-{G}₀ (I)

in which R is an alkyl and/or alkenyl group containing 4 to 22 carbon atoms, G is a sugar unit containing 5 or 6 carbon atoms and p is a number of 1 to 10, and free fatty acids containing 6 to 22 carbon atoms. The mixtures are suitable as emulsifiers for invert drilling fluids.